Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Written Specially for The Action Free Press by CHRISTOPHER P. CLARKE

Time was when it was a matter for pride to look at your pass-book and find a good balance to your credit. Now it isn't something of which to be ashamed. Little money at the bank doesn't do anyone any good—neither ourselves, our country, nor the boys who are fighting for us. But take that money—however little or much—use it to buy Victory Bonds and then you can listen to Victory Bond propaganda with a clear conscience. I have often heard people say they get sick and tired of listening to the radio when a Victory Loan is being launched. Is it really Victory Bond sales-talk that bothers them, or an uneasy conscience? I wonder! Others say "Why should I lend money to the government when I see evidence of wasteful spending on every hand?" Well, there is no denying the fact that our money does often appear to be spent, not wisely, but too well—but that seems to be one of the fortunes of war no matter what party is in office. In any case two wrongs never yet made a right. If we pick holes in government expenditure as an excuse for not supporting the Victory Loan then we are as much at fault as those we blame. One thing is certain—most of what we lend to the government is used for the purpose for which it was intended, otherwise Canada's war-effort would have collapsed long ago.

So, if I may be permitted an opinion, I would say the best thing we can do is to help put this new Victory Loan over the top. Never mind keeping something back "in case of an emergency"—if an emergency arises we can always cash in on a bond, or better still, use it as security to borrow from our bank. When victory comes, we shall feel that WE have had a share in it. Or, in the event of a reverse—which we must expect occasionally—our conscience will not reproach us by saying "Well, what did you do to stop it?"

Those who have boys "over there" sometimes feel that that is as much as should be expected of them. Others feel, and surely mightily so, that the very fact that their boys are away makes it more imperative for them to do all that is humanly possible to back them up. There are still others with no one in the forces—wouldn't it be natural for them to feel that they should make even greater sacrifices to help the cause for which others are fighting. All will share equally in the victory, but what of the cost?

Farm people should remember that right now they are in a privileged class. Many farm boys have been granted exemptions — and we also have special gas categories—but we should remember that special privileges also carry with them special obligations. Men and boys have been deferred—sometimes on compassionate grounds, but generally because the government thinks they are needed where they are. In no case is deferment granted for the purpose of personal advantage to the individual concerned. But . . . . well, some times the result is a little hard for others to take. However, along comes another Victory Loan—one more golden opportunity for those left at home to back up the boys who are winning the war the hard way. Theirs is a sacrifice of blood. Ours is—or should be—a sacrifice of sweat, toil and tears. Anything we gain financially should go back to the government in Victory Bonds, to equalize as nearly as we can the greater sacrifice going on day after day in the firing line, in the skies, and on and under the seas.

In lighter vein . . . we have managed to get a pup at last. It won't be yellow and white, it isn't a male, and it is just about as scared as a jack rabbit. It's name? Well I guess that it will have to be Lassie, because, from present indications, I shall spend half my time saying "Lassie — Lassie . . . : come home!" Maybe a timid pup will eventually make the best sort of dog. But that remains to be seen.

THEY KNOW THEIR "BIKES"

Nearly 1200 Canadian Scouts earned their cyclist proficiency badge last year. The badge requires that they own a fully equipped bicycle must be able to take it apart, clean it, and put it together again, be able to make minor repairs, know the traffic rules for the province, and offer their bicycle for community use when called upon to do so.

RECORD BEET PRODUCTION

LINCOLN (CP)—A record tonnage of beet—about 173,000 tons—was converted into sugar at a North Lincolnshire bee-sugar factory in the season just ended. The sugar produced was sufficient to supply nearly 2,400,000 persons with their weekly eight ounces for a year.

The Sunday School Lesson

SUNDAY, APRIL 30th, 1944

PAUL WINS RECOGNITION FOR GENTILE CHRISTIANS

(Galen Text. — Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. 5: 1.

Lesson Text.—Ac. 15: 22b-29; Gal. 2: 1, 2, 9, 10. Read also 20, 21.

Time.—A. D. 50-52. Place.—Jerusalem.

Exposition.—I. The Decision of the Holy Spirit and the Apostles, 22b-29.

The great controversy in the early Church was, whether a man is saved upon faith apart from works of the law, or whether a man is saved upon faith AND works of the law. This is the great battle Paul fought, and, in a later day, Martin Luther. Three arguments were brought forward at the Council in Jerusalem to refute the Judaizers. (1) Peter's argument: God has borne them witness by giving the Holy Spirit to the uncircumcised, as well unto us, and has "put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith" (vs. 8, 9). (2) Paul's argument: God has wrought signs and wonders among the Gentiles by us, and thus set His seal upon our preaching of salvation by faith apart from the works of the law (v. 12). (3) James' argument: It is according to Old Testament Scriptures that God will take a people for His name from among the uncircumcised Gentiles, as well as from the law-keeping Jews (vs. 13-17).

These arguments convinced the Council, and the Mosaic law was not laid upon the Gentile Church. The apostles and elders and the whole Church took precautions to guard against any misrepresentation of their decision being taken back to Antioch by the legalizers. Thus Paul gained this chosen companion of coming days (v. 40). Good had come out of the schemes of Paul's enemies. The mode of address used in the letter is full of significance: "The brethren which are of the Gentiles." Faith in Christ makes all men kin.

Many American Christians have not yet reached the point where they regard every converted Chinese or African as a brother. The description of the Judaizers is very striking and suggestive. "Certain which went out from us have troubled you with words." This kind of troublers are not all dead yet. They creep in unawares and whisper specious, false words to young converts. There is no way in which the devil can make more trouble (believers (and especially young converts) or more thoroughly unsettle (subvert) their souls, than by false words. These false words must be met by the word of truth (Col. 3: 16), and above all, by the Word of God (2 Tim. 3: 15-17). The apostles emphatically denied all responsibility (v. 24) for this pernicious teaching, that men must keep the law of Moses in order to be saved (v. 1).

They had come to absolute unanimity about the matter in question. There is no need of any differences on essential points among those who bow to the authority of the Bible and are honestly asking wisdom of God (Jas. 1: 5-7). The apostles and the whole church bestowed very lofty praise on Paul and Barnabas. It was well deserved (2 Cor. 11: 23-27). Of how many disciples to-day could it be justly said that they had hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? Anyone who desires to be a disciple of Christ must be willing to do it (Luke 14: 26). It was not their own decision on this great question that they were sending; it was the Holy Spirit's decision. They were perfectly sure of this (v. 28). It is our privilege to know this (Jno. 16: 13; 14: 26; 1 Jno. 2: 27). It was because they sought and obtained the mind of the Spirit that they were able to "come to one accord."

II. Paul's Own Account of the Council at Jerusalem, Gal. 2: 1, 2.

In the second part of our lesson we have Paul's own account of the church conference at Jerusalem. He gives us a number of details which Luke does not touch upon. The church at Antioch had commissioned him to go, but in addition he went "by revelation," i. e., in obedience to an inner revelation from God. Paul was fully aware of the gravity of the situation, but he had no sense of dependence upon the apostles at Jerusalem, no doubts but that he was preaching the truth. He had gotten his gospel by direct revelation from Christ. He took along with him Titus, a native Greek, as a living witness that God had blessed his teaching. In a series of private interviews with the Jerusalem leaders he gave them every opportunity to examine into his work. They were perfectly satisfied.

III. Official Recognition of Paul as Apostle to the Gentiles, 9, 10.

The leaders of the Jewish Christians saw from the manifest blessing of God on his work (Ac. 15: 12) that Paul had been chosen by God to carry the gospel to the Gentiles. Peter had opened the door to them (cf. Ac. 10: 11-18; 15: 7), but his permanent work, as a whole, was to the Jews. Paul did something for the Jews, but he was distinctively the apostle to the Gentiles (Ac. 22: 18-21). Let us never forget that God entrusts different men with different forms of ministry, sets His seal upon them all, and works through all (cf. 1 Cor. 12: 6; Ac. 15: 8). The apostles at Jerusalem did not dare oppose a ministry to which God had so obviously set His seal. No, they co-operated and, to pledge the compact of the division of mission fields, gave Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship. Among all the questions of doctrine and ritual there was one additional point on which they were all agreed, that of the importance and necessity of practical benevolence (cf. 10; cf. 2 Cor. 8: 1-12; 9: 1-5; Ac. 11: 28-30).

WILD GEESE CROW TAME

(CAIRO, Ill. (CP)—Paul Smith, representative of the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, of Anna, Ill., reports that the Canadian wild goose is getting dumb and is in danger of becoming extinct.

Smith warns that goose using the five great Mississippi flyways for nesting grounds in Canada are becoming so used to men, farms and machinery because of their frequenting the bird refuges that they have lost their birds-book reputation for being as hard bird to hunt and kill.

Because of this, he says, all goose flying up and down the Mississippi could be killed off, or they could be so reduced in numbers that bringing them back would be difficult.

Since geese do not lay eggs as ducks, their comeback cannot be compared to them. Also, he says, geese usually do not mingle when one of a pair dies.

ENTIRE WOMEN BUYERS

LONDON (CP)—The new wartime utility wooden-soled footwear hasn't gone over so well with the women. So the government has removed the sales tax on this type of footwear in the hope of boosting sales.

Twenty Years Ago

From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, May 1st, 1924

The tennis season has opened on the courts of Acton Athletic Association.

Sunday was a glorious spring day. The mercury rose to 65 in the shade.

Mr. and Mrs. Sheila Shaw on Mill Street has been sold to Mr. L. Shackman.

Mr. and Mrs. Chowsam McLaughlin attended the wedding of their niece, Miss Ethel Craig, in Toronto, on Saturday.

Rev. John Joseph Feeney, who was for ten years the pastor beloved of the flock of St. Joseph's church here, passed away at Dundas last Saturday.

The Acton Ranger Football Team played a league match with the Sons of England in Toronto on Saturday. The score was Acton 1, Toronto 1.

BORN

GRIFFITH—In Erin Township, on Sunday, April 27th, 1924, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Griffith, a son.

MARRIED

HUSBAND-MILLER—At Rochester, N. Y., on Wednesday, April 23rd, 1924, Amy Miller to W. Gladstone Husband, all Rochester, son of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Husband, Acton.

KING-LAKE.—At the Methodist Parsonage, Acton, on Wednesday, April 23rd, 1924, by Rev. Charles Hartett, Lawrence King, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. King, Bloomingsburg, to Minnie Allen, eldest daughter of the late William and Mrs. Ramer, of Acton.

BIG CASE SETTLED

LONDON (CP)—In the 2,000-year-old Chilterns (Cross, Kent, people from London are again taking shelter against air raids. The caves consist of 22 miles of chalky tunnels, lighted by electricity; 300 gallons of tea are made each night, three dance bands play every evening.

Before you blame your telephone....

CHECK THIS DISTANCE

Engineers designed the mouthpiece of your telephone to give best results at some distance off on their faces the lips. When your lips are farther away than this, your voice is transmitted less clearly . . . less clearly.

Failure to remember these simple facts accounts for the great majority of "trouble" reports.

Help avoid needless service check-ups, and at the same time let those you talk to hear you without strain. Just remember: *Talk clearly, naturally, directly into the mouthpiece, with your lips just one-quarter of an inch from the small grill.*

Our Action Service *Guiding Things to Work*

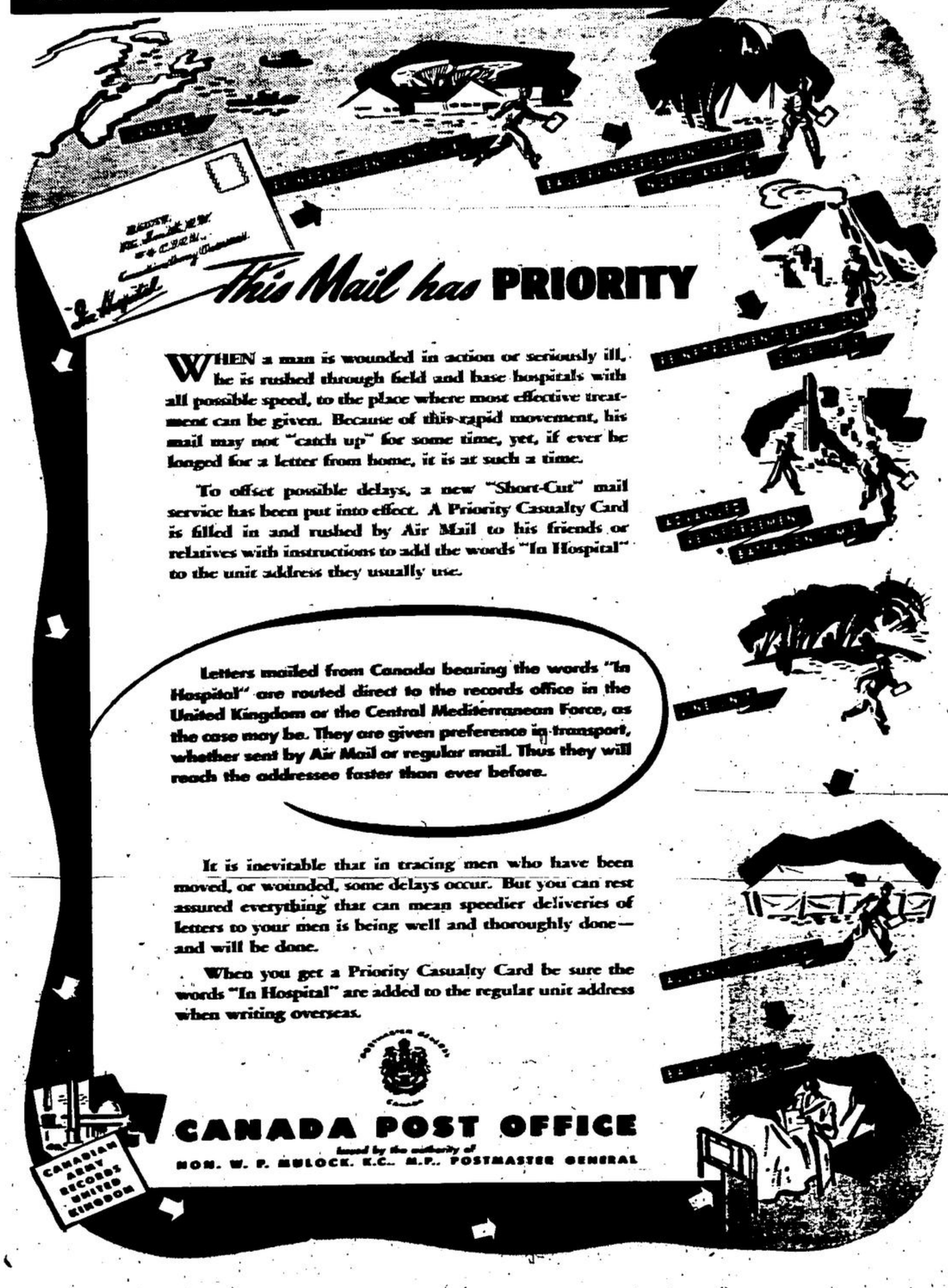
Speaking while you talk may cause distorted reception. If this happens, your lips are too close to the mouthpiece. Slightly the distance of the lips.

If your voice sounds muffled, move your desk or your talk, sometimes to build the mouthpiece in correct position, closer to the lips.

A weak and easily overcome voice usually results when the other person is speaking clearly into the mouthpiece. Don't "talk around" it.

Use short, crisp sentences, always keep your lips close to the mouthpiece, speak—and at times the listener questions.

ADDRESSES ON THE MOVE ...



This Mail has PRIORITY

WHEN a man is wounded in action or seriously ill, he is rushed through field and base hospitals with all possible speed, to the place where most effective treatment can be given. Because of this rapid movement, his mail may not "catch up" for some time, yet, if ever he longed for a letter from home, it is at such a time.

To offset possible delays, a new "Short-Cut" mail service has been put into effect. A Priority Casualty Card is filled in and rushed by Air Mail to his friends or relatives with instructions to add the words "In Hospital" to the unit address they usually use.

Letters mailed from Canada bearing the words "In Hospital" are routed direct to the records office in the United Kingdom or the Central Mediterranean Force, as the case may be. They are given preference in transport, whether sent by Air Mail or regular mail. Thus they will reach the addressee faster than ever before.

It is inevitable that in tracing men who have been moved, or wounded, some delays occur. But you can rest assured everything that can mean speedier deliveries of letters to your men is being well and thoroughly done—and will be done.

When you get a Priority Casualty Card be sure the words "In Hospital" are added to the regular unit address when writing overseas.

CANADA POST OFFICE

Issued by the authority of HON. W. P. MULOCK, K.C., M.P., POSTMASTER GENERAL

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